

Special Budget Public Hearing - Board Meeting – December 3, 2020

On December 3, 2020, the Village Board met to hold the Special Budget Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. at the Rescue Squad, 614C Railroad Avenue, Colfax, WI. Members present: President Gunnufson, Trustees Halpin, M. Burcham, Davis, Jenson and Michels. Excused: Trustee Stene. Others present included: Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer Niggemann and LeAnn Ralph with the Messenger.

Open Public Hearing - A motion was made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Trustee Halpin to open Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. Voting For: Trustees Davis, Burcham, Halpin, Michels, Jenson and Gunnufson. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

The Village President noted that no public was present.

Review any Changes/Corrections to the published 2021 Budget - Niggemann explained that the Village did not have the final rates for the health insurance prior to publishing the public notice. The budget has been adjusted based on the new figures for Health Insurance as well as the updated tax increment worksheet with the corrected Assessed Evaluation. Niggemann explained that the Health Insurance that reflects the best deal and policy would be the Health Traditions (Mayo only network) with \$7,000 individual deductible and \$14,000 family deductible plus a Gap Deductible policy which will work like a secondary policy and the max out of pocket of 2,500. With this information the budget has been adjusted and is within the expenditure restraint amount and the tax levy amount if the Village levy is \$468,000 and the tax rate for the Village would go from 0.010469039 in 2019 paid in 2020 to 0.010458277 for 2020 paid in 2021. This is a slight reduction for the Village portion of the tax rate. The Dunn County portion of the tax reflected a reduction of \$5,155, -0.000132008. The School District increase, result of the referendum approved a couple years ago, equaled \$16,097, +0.000350499 and the CVTC referendum reflects an increase of \$6,114, +0.000135688. The School Tax credit also reflected less of a credit to the tax bills. The net tax rate for the Village of Colfax tax bills would be 0.026916487 if the Board levies \$468,000, the same amount as 2019. The next tax bill would reflect a total net tax rate increase of 0.000376637.

A motion was made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Halpin to accept the Health Traditions \$7000/\$14,000 policy with the Gap Deductible policy. Voting For: Trustees M. Burcham, Davis, Michels, Halpin, Jenson and Gunnufson. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the tax rate in great detail and wanted to grant a tax decrease to the residents. Niggemann reminded the Board that the school and CVTC referendums are items that the people voted for. They expect the tax rate to increase. The Village cannot continue to cut our budget to account for those increases, which were voted on by the people.

A motion was finally made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Trustee Halpin to approve the 2021 budget as Niggemann presented with Revenues and Expenses equaling \$1,220,974. Voting For: Trustees M. Burcham, Davis, Halpin, Jenson, Michels and Gunnufson. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

Set Tax Levy – A motion was made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Trustee Jenson to approve the Village of Colfax Levy Amount of \$468,000 which consisted of \$328,696 for the general levy, \$79,921 for Debt Levy and \$59,383 for the Library Levy. Voting For: Trustees Davis, M. Burcham, Halpin, Jenson, Michels and Gunnufson. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

Close Public Hearing – A motion was made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Trustee Halpin to close the Public Hearing at 7:48 p.m. Voting For: Trustees Michels, Halpin, Jenson, Davis, M. Burcham and Gunnufson. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

Adjourn – A motion was made by Trustee M. Burcham and seconded by Trustee Jenson to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken with all members voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Scott Gunnufson, Village President

Attest: Lynn Niggemann
Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer